

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

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TAGS: PGOV, PINT, GR

SUBJ: PAPANDREOU AND FLORAKIS REPLY TO CARAMANLIS
POLICY STATEMENT

1. SUMMARY. PASOK LEADER ANDREAS PAPANDREOU AND KKE
(EXTERIOR) LEADER FLORAKIS BOTH CRITICIZED PM CARAMANLIS
POLICY STATEMENT AND INDICATED THEY WOULD VOTE AGAINST
MOTION OF CONFIDENCE IN PARLIAMENT SCHEDULED FOR
DECEMBER 14. END SUMMARY.

2. PASOK LEADER ANDREAS PAPANDREOU CRITICIZED DECEMBER 11
POLICY STATEMENT OF PM CARAMANLIS, CHARACTERIZING IT AS A
"BLANK BOOK". HE STRESSED THAT GOVERNMENT SILENCE TO DATE ON
SUCH VITAL ISSUE AS NEW CONSTITUTION IS "INADMISSABLE".
CITING KANELLOPOULOS' STATEMENT A FEW DAYS AGO (ATHENS-8877),
PAPANDREOU SAID IT IS CLEAR THAT GREECE IS HEADING TOWARD
PRESIDENTIAL FORM OF REGIME WITH INCREASED POWERS FOR
PRESIDENT; IN THIS REGARD, PASOK WOULD NATURALLY OPPOSE
REDUCTION OF POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY AND DIMINISHED POWER
OF PARLIAMENT.

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3. RE ECONOMIC SECTOR, PAPANDREOU CATEGORIZED LEGACY

INHERITED BY GOG AFTER SEVEN YEARS OF JUNTA RULE AS A "TRAGIC SITUATION" AS RELATING TO BUDGET, BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND FOREIGN DEBTS. HE STATED NO RELIABLE STATISTICS EXIST, A FACT WHICH PRECLUDES "A REALLY CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSION ON FIGURES IN PARLIAMENT". HE ASSERTED THAT "FOREIGN MONOPOLY CAPITAL" HAD HELD A PROMINENT POSITION IN COUNTRY'S ECONOMY DURING SEVEN-YEAR PERIOD AND EVEN TODAY IS IN "POSITION TO DECISIVELY INFLUENCE NATION'S ECONOMY, TO BUY CONSCIENCES AND TO PLAY POWERFUL ROLE IN COUNTRY'S LIFE." SUCH CONTRACTS OF THAT PERIOD CONSTITUTE "A SCANDAL".

4. ON EDUCATION, PAPANDREOU STATED FIRST PRIORITY IS THE CLEANSING OF ALL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FROM JUNTA SYMPATHIZERS. EDUCATION SHOULD BECOME PROPERTY OF THE GREEK PEOPLE; "EDUCATION IS FOR EVERYONE AND UNIVERSITIES SHOULD BE OPENED TO ALL AGES AND TO BOTH SEXES".

5. ON FOREIGN POLICY PAPANDREOU STATED THAT "GREECE BELONGS TO THE GREEKS" AND "NOT TO THE WEST "AS PM CARAMANLIS SAID IN HIS POLICY STATEMENT. (PRIMIN INTERRUPTED AT THIS POINT TO SAY "I SAID GREECE BELONGS TO THE WEST NOT TO WESTERNERS"). HE CHARACTERIZED SEVEN-YEAR DICTATORSHIP AS "AN AMERICAN ONE" WHICH WAS APPROVED AND ESTABLISHED BY PENTAGON, CIA AND NATO. PAPANDREOU ALLEGED THAT CYPRUS TRAGEDY WAS "OFFICIAL WORK OF THE PENTAGON AND NATO". TURNING TO CYPRUS, HE STATED BELIEF THAT ISLAND SHOULD BECOME UNIFIED, INDEPENDENT AND DEMILITARIZED AND THAT REFUGEES SHOULD RETURN TO THEIR HOMES. HE STATED "I WOULD LIKE TO BELIEVE NO GREEK GOVERNMENT WOULD SIGN AN AGREEMENT LEADING TO THE PARTITION OF THE ISLAND, ALLOWING IT TO BECOME A MILITARY BASE OF FOREIGN POWERS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA". HE INDICATED THAT FOREIGN POLICY IS CLOSELY CONNECTED WITH NATIONAL DEFENSE AND THAT GREECE HAD BEEN "LABORING UNDER THE ILLUSION THAT THE NUCLEAR UMBRELLA PROVIDED BY THE U.S. AND NATO WOULD PROTECT GREECE." HE ADDED, "THIS IS NOT TRUE, NOW WE HAVE THE CYPRUS ISSUE TO PROVE THE EXACT OPPOSITE". FINALLY, HE CALLED FOR THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITHDRAWAL OF GREECE FROM BOTH THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY ARMS OF NATO AND URGED ABROGATION OF BILATERAL AGREEMENTS COVERING AMERICAN BASES IN GREECE AND REMOVAL OF THE SIXTH FLEET FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN.

6. FLORAKIS ALSO TOOK ISSUE WITH PM'S POLICY STATEMENT, STATING IT WAS "CHARACTERIZED BY VAGUENESS AND LACK OF REFERENCE TO GRAVE ISSUES FACING THE NATION".

REGARDING THE NEW CONSTITUTION, FLORAKIS STATED COMMUNIST PARTY OPPOSES PRESIDENTIAL REGIME AND LIMITATION OF PARLIAMENT'S POWERS.

7. ON FOREIGN POLICY, FLORAKIS STATED HE SUPPORTS PERMANENT WITHDRAWAL OF GREECE FROM NATO BECAUSE THE ALLIANCE SHOWED "IT CAN CAUSE ONLY ADVENTURES AND DISASTERS FOR GREECE". HE ARGUED FOR ABOLITION OF AMERICAN BASES AND DEMANDED SIXTH FLEET WITHDRAWAL FROM GREEK SEAS AND CANCELLATION OF ALL SIXTH FLEET-RELATED AGREEMENTS WHICH "ARE COUNTER TO PUBLIC INTEREST".

8. REGARDING CYPRUS, FLORAKIS STATED THE COMMUNIST PARTY STOOD FOR A SETTLEMENT BASED ON INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY AND INTEGRITY OF THE ISLAND WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF UNGA AND SC RESOLUTIONS. HE DECLARED THAT HIS PARTY CONSIDERS GREECE'S ENTRY INTO THE COMMON MARKET TO BE AGAINST NATION'S INTERESTS, AND ASSERTED THAT GREECE SHOULD DEVELOP RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES OF THE EAST AND WEST. HE ALSO OPPOSED GREEK MEMBERSHIP IN WEU AND URGED EXPANSION OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. FLORAKIS CONCLUDED THAT HIS PARTY WOULD VOTE NEGATIVELY ON MOTION OF CONFIDENCE.
STEARNS

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